



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Phase 9

Laws of Minnesota 2021 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 05/08/2023

Project Title: Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Phase 9

Funds Recommended: \$4,068,000

Legislative Citation: ML 2021, First Sp. Session, Ch. 1, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd. 3(a)

Appropriation Language: \$4,068,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements as follows: (1) \$1,294,000 to The Nature Conservancy to acquire lands in fee for wildlife management under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; for scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5; for state forests under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 7; for aquatic management areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 14; and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat; (2) \$1,393,000 to The Trust for Public Land to acquire lands in fee for wildlife management under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; for scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5; for state forests under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 7; and for aquatic management areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 14; and (3) \$1,381,000 to Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat, of which up to \$168,000 is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Manager Information

Manager's Name: David Ruff

Title: Conservation Program Manager

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Location Information

County Location(s): Winona, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Olmsted, Wabasha and Dodge.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

- Southeast Forest

Activity types:

- Protect in Easement
- Protect in Fee
- Restore
- Enhance

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Prairie
- Forest
- Habitat

Narrative**Abstract**

This project will protect approximately 1,098 acres using conservation easement and fee land acquisition, and restore and enhance approximately 753 acres of declining habitat for important wildlife species. Actions will occur in strategically targeted areas of biodiversity significance within the Blufflands of Southeast Minnesota, resulting in increased public access and improved wildlife habitat.

Design and Scope of Work

The Southeast Blufflands is Minnesota's most biodiverse region. Some 86 different native plant communities have been mapped by the Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS) in the program area, covering nearly 150,000 acres. These communities provide habitat for 183 rare state-listed plants and animals and more Species in Greatest Conservation Need than anywhere else in the state. These imperiled species are concentrated within 749 Sites of Biodiversity Significance.

Despite this biological richness only 5% of the region has been protected to date. This program is increasing access to public lands to meet the continued high demand for outdoor recreation within the region.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Minnesota Land Trust (MLT) and The Trust for Public Land (TPL), in partnership, are working to change this circumstance. Through our Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Program, we are working to expand and connect larger contiguous blocks of protected lands, allowing land managers to restore, enhance and maintain high-quality habitats at a scale difficult to accomplish with fragmented ownership. Protecting and managing these lands is not only important for ecological reasons, but also benefits public enjoyment of these lands and the resources they provide.

This Program has a long, proven track record of protecting, restoring and enhancing lands that meet both state and local priorities for biodiversity, land access and watershed health. To date, the Partnership has protected 7,457 acres of priority lands and 27 miles of stream, and has restored/enhanced 1,177 acres of habitat.

This 9th Phase of our Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Program continues this body of work:

1. **Conservation Easements.** MLT will protect 729 acres of high-quality private land through conservation easements and develop restoration and habitat management plans for eased lands. MLT will identify potential projects within targeted priority areas through an RFP process coupled with local outreach via SWCD offices. This competitive landowner bid process will rank projects based on ecological value and cost, prioritizing the best projects and securing them at the lowest cost to the state.
2. **Fee Acquisition.** TNC and TPL will coordinate with MN DNR on all potential fee title acquisitions. TNC and TPL will assist the participating DNR Divisions by conducting all or some of the following activities: initial site reviews, negotiations with the willing seller, appraisals, environmental reviews and acquisition of fee title. TNC and TPL will transfer lands to the DNR except when TNC ownership is appropriate. Fee acquisition of forest (217 acres), prairie (152 acres) and 1 mile of shoreline.
3. **Restoration and Enhancement.** TNC will use a stewardship crew and contractors to restore/enhance approximately 730 acres of bluff prairie, floodplain, riparian habitat and forest within priority complexes of protected lands. MLT will restore and enhance 23 acres of habitat on existing easements, and identify restoration/enhancement priorities on its other existing easement lands in the Southeast. Ecological restoration enhancement management plans will be developed in coordination with the DNR staff, landowners and/or hired subcontractors.

How does the plan address habitats that have significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, and/or threatened or endangered species, and list targeted species?

Most of the projects selected for this proposal are located in complexes of biodiversity significance, as identified by MBS. Many are also in close proximity to current state land. Building and expanding contiguous blocks of natural vegetation protects habitat continuity in a fragmented landscape.

Sedimentation and erosion are major threats to fish in the region. Protecting and enhancing upland natural communities, especially on the steep bluffs that flank most trout streams, will help prevent additional erosion. Aquatic habitat also benefits from protection of trout stream banks and floodplains. The water quality benefit that comes with the protection of forested upland areas is significant and contributes to improved trout and non-game fish and mussel habitat.

Proposed projects contain over 98 occurrences of Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) identified by the Natural Heritage Inventory, including 58 different species/communities/assemblages. This proposal will continue with high impact projects that have included a total of 211 occurrences representing 95 different species/communities/assemblages. Specific habitats include bluff prairie, oak savanna, barrens prairie, oak-hickory woodland, jack pine-oak woodland, white pine - oak/maple forest and maple basswood hardwood forest. These habitats support species including: tri-colored and northern long-eared bats, timber rattlesnake, Blanding's turtle, western foxsnake, North American racer, American ginseng, great Indian plantain, plains wild indigo and red-shouldered hawk.

Describe how the plan uses science-based targeting that leverages or expands corridors and complexes, reduces fragmentation or protects areas identified in the MN County Biological Survey:

Southeast Minnesota benefits from a wealth of conservation planning and biological indices and analyses. Our partnership has defined our priorities based on these existing plans, like the watershed-based Landscape Stewardship Plans and DNR's Wildlife Action Network along with the Conservation Focus Areas in the Root River and Whitewater watersheds to identify priority areas to focus our efforts and resources (see proposal handout). Individual projects are assessed based on their significance to biodiversity (according to data from the MN Biological Survey), along with several other important criteria such as:

- location within a priority area
- health and extent of existing natural communities
- areas of significant biodiversity and native plant communities
- proximity to existing conservation lands
- parcel size
- importance for stream quality
- risk of conversion

Which two sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are most applicable to this project?

- H1 Protect priority land habitats

Which two other plans are addressed in this program?

- Minnesota's Wildlife Action Plan 2015-2025
- Outdoor Heritage Fund: A 25 Year Framework

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Southeast Forest

- Protect forest habitat through acquisition in fee or easement to prevent parcelization and fragmentation and to provide the ability to access and manage landlocked public properties

Outcomes

Programs in southeast forest region:

- Large corridors and complexes of biologically diverse wildlife habitat typical of the unglaciated region are restored and protected ~ *We will track the acres of priority parcels protected within the Conservation Opportunity Areas (COA) identified as priorities in regional planning. Success within each COA will be determined based on the percentage of area protected, restored and/or enhanced.*

Does this program include leveraged funding?

Yes

Explain the leverage:

The Minnesota Land Trust encourages landowners to fully or partially donate the value of conservation easements as part of its landowner bid protocol. An estimated leverage of \$150,000 of donated value from landowners from easement acquisition is a conservative estimate.

Partners are also leveraging private funds to cover a portion of travel and direct support services cost totaling \$30,800. The Nature Conservancy is also leveraging \$73,000 Federal State Wildlife Grant funds for habitat restoration and enhancement.

Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

This proposal does not substitute or supplant previous funding that was not from a Legacy fund.

Non-OHF Appropriations

Year	Source	Amount
2013	The Nature Conservancy	\$67,661
2014	The Nature Conservancy	\$2,173,459
2015	The Nature Conservancy	\$14,200
2016	The Trust for Public Land	\$250,000
2016	The Nature Conservancy	\$25,656
2017	The Nature Conservancy	\$63,600
2017	Trust for Public Land - Land Donation	\$55,000
2017	RIM Critical Habitat Match	\$500,000
2018	Trust for Public Land - Private	\$21,250

How will you sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended?

Tracts acquired in fee title will be transferred to the state for ongoing management except when TNC ownership is appropriate. Acquisition projects will be near or adjacent to existing protected lands, including state-owned lands and lands under conservation easement, allowing for the expansion of management activities that are already taking place. Habitats cleared of invasive species will be maintained with prescribed fire and other practices depending on funding. Protection and restoration projects will improve future prescribed fire and maintenance activities through economies of scale. The tracts protected and enhanced as part of this proposal also meet the prioritization for Minnesota's Wildlife Action Plan. MN DNR has been successful in securing federal habitat enhancement funding.

Land protected through conservation easements will be sustained by MLT through a state-of-the art easement stewardship standards and practices. MLT is a nationally-accredited and insured land trust with a successful easement stewardship program that includes annual property monitoring and defending the easements as necessary. In addition, MLT encourages landowners to undertake active ecological management of their properties, provides them with habitat management plans and works with them to secure resources (expertise and funding) to undertake these activities over time.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Every 4-6 years	US Fish and Wildlife Service	prescribed fire	-	-
Every 4-6 years	Game and Fish Fund	prescribed fire	-	-
2023 and perpetually	MLT Easement Stewardship and Enforcement Fund	Annual monitoring in perpetuity	Enforcement as necessary	-

Activity Details

Requirements

If funded, this program will meet all applicable criteria set forth in MS 97A.056?

Yes

Will county board or other local government approval be formally sought prior to acquisition, per 97A.056 subd 13(j)?**

No

Describe any measures to inform local governments of land acquisition under their jurisdiction:

We will follow the county/township board notification processes as directed by current statutory language.

Is the land you plan to acquire (fee title) free of any other permanent protection?

Yes

Is the land you plan to acquire (easement) free of any other permanent protection?

Yes

Who will manage the easement?

Minnesota Land Trust

Who will be the easement holder?

Minnesota Land Trust

What is the anticipated number of easements (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?

MLT will complete 2-6 easements depending on size and cost, and the level of donative value put forward by landowners.

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?

Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?

Yes

Where does the activity take place?

- WMA
- SNA
- AMA

- Permanently Protected Conservation Easements
- County/Municipal
- Public Waters
- State Forests
- Other : OHF Acquired TNC Preserve

Land Use

Will there be planting of any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program?

Yes

Explain what will be planted:

Short-term use of agricultural crops is an accepted best practice for preparing a site for prairie restoration. For example, short-term use of soybeans could be used for restorations in order to control weed seedbeds prior to prairie planting. In some cases this necessitates the use of GMO treated products to facilitate herbicide use in order to control weeds present in the seedbank, however neonicotinoids will not be used.

MLT - The purpose of the Minnesota Land Trust's conservation easements is to protect existing high quality natural habitat and to preserve opportunities for future restoration. As such, we restrict any agricultural lands and use on the properties. In cases in which there are agricultural lands associated with the larger property, we will either carve the agricultural area out of the conservation easement, or in some limited cases, we may include a small percentage of agricultural lands if it is not feasible to carve those areas out. In such cases, however, we will not use OHF funds to pay the landowners for that portion of the conservation easement.

Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing?

No

Will the land be open for hunting and fishing after completion?

Yes

Describe any variation from the State of Minnesota regulations:

None

Who will eventually own the fee title land?

- State of MN
- NGO

Land acquired in fee will be designated as a:

- WMA
- AMA
- SNA
- State Forest

What is the anticipated number of closed acquisitions (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?

TPL and TNC expect to close on 2-4 fee acquisitions through this appropriation.

Will the eased land be open for public use?

No

Are there currently trails or roads on any of the proposed acquisitions?

Yes

Describe the types of trails or roads and the allowable uses:

Driveways, access points, field roads and trails.

Will the trails or roads remain and uses continue to be allowed after OHF acquisition?

Yes

How will maintenance and monitoring be accomplished?

Most conservation easements are established on private lands, many of which have driveways, field roads and trails located on them. Often, the conservation easement permits the continued usage of established trails and roads so long as their use does not significantly impact the conservation values of the property. Creation of new roads/trails or expansion of existing ones is typically not allowed.

Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition?

No

Will the acquired parcels be restored or enhanced within this appropriation?

Yes

There will likely be restoration and enhancement needs greater than funding available within this appropriation for 1 or more of the lands to be acquired within this appropriation.

Will the land that you acquire (fee or easement) be restored or enhanced within this program's funding and availability?

No

Explain how, when, and source of the R/E work:

Restoration expenses include program development activities in addition to restoration construction expenses. MLT restoration personnel will conduct outreach with easement landowners to evaluate, scope, design and schedule additional restoration projects. These activities will improve the project selection, cost-estimates and outcomes for future OHF funding requests.

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Purchase agreements or options on acquisition of fee land	June 30, 2024
Acquisition of fee land	June 30, 2025
Restoration/Enhancement on parcels protected with grant	June 30, 2026
Restoration/Enhancement on parcels protected without grant	June 30, 2026
MLT easement acquisition	June 30, 2025

Date of Final Report Submission: 11/01/2026

Availability of Appropriation: Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. For acquiring real property, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2025. Money for restoration or enhancement is available until June 30, 2026. Money for restoration and enhancement of land acquired with an appropriation in this article is available for four years after the acquisition date with a maximum end date of June 30, 2029. If a project receives at least 15 percent of its funding from federal funds, the time of the appropriation may be extended to equal the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years if the federal funding was confirmed and included in the original approved draft accomplishment plan. Money appropriated for acquiring land in fee title may be used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public-use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.

Budget

Budget reallocations up to 10% do not require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan.

Grand Totals Across All Partnerships

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$602,000	\$73,000	-	\$675,000
Contracts	\$447,500	-	-	\$447,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$1,591,200	-	-	\$1,591,200
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$730,000	\$150,000	-, Private	\$880,000
Easement Stewardship	\$168,000	-	-	\$168,000
Travel	\$44,900	\$3,000	Private	\$47,900
Professional Services	\$223,800	-	-	\$223,800
Direct Support Services	\$127,300	\$27,800	Private	\$155,100
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$22,000	-	-	\$22,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$8,200	-	-	\$8,200
Supplies/Materials	\$63,100	-	-	\$63,100
DNR IDP	\$40,000	-	-	\$40,000
Grand Total	\$4,068,000	\$253,800	-	\$4,321,800

Partner: The Nature Conservancy**Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$402,000	\$73,000	-	\$475,000
Contracts	\$250,000	-	-	\$250,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$418,000	-	-	\$418,000
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$32,000	-	-	\$32,000
Professional Services	\$40,000	-	-	\$40,000
Direct Support Services	\$59,000	-	-	\$59,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$10,000	-	-	\$10,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$5,000	-	-	\$5,000
Supplies/Materials	\$63,000	-	-	\$63,000
DNR IDP	\$15,000	-	-	\$15,000
Grand Total	\$1,294,000	\$73,000	-	\$1,367,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
TNC Restoration/Enhancement Crew	1.77	3.0	\$204,000	\$73,000	Federal	\$277,000
TNC Project Management, Protection and Grant Administration	0.7	3.0	\$198,000	-	-	\$198,000

Partner: The Trust for Public Land**Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$50,000	-	-	\$50,000
Contracts	\$60,000	-	-	\$60,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$1,173,200	-	-	\$1,173,200
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	\$3,000	Private	\$3,000
Professional Services	\$45,000	-	-	\$45,000
Direct Support Services	\$27,800	\$27,800	Private	\$55,600
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$12,000	-	-	\$12,000
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	-	-	-	-
DNR IDP	\$25,000	-	-	\$25,000
Grand Total	\$1,393,000	\$30,800	-	\$1,423,800

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Protection and Legal Staff	0.1	3.0	\$50,000	-	-	\$50,000

Partner: Minnesota Land Trust**Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$150,000	-	-	\$150,000
Contracts	\$137,500	-	-	\$137,500
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$730,000	\$150,000	Private	\$880,000
Easement Stewardship	\$168,000	-	-	\$168,000
Travel	\$12,900	-	-	\$12,900
Professional Services	\$138,800	-	-	\$138,800
Direct Support Services	\$40,500	-	-	\$40,500
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$3,200	-	-	\$3,200
Supplies/Materials	\$100	-	-	\$100
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$1,381,000	\$150,000	-	\$1,531,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Restoration Staff	0.13	4.0	\$50,000	-	-	\$50,000
Land Protection Staff	0.26	4.0	\$100,000	-	-	\$100,000

Amount of Request: \$4,068,000**Amount of Leverage:** \$253,800**Leverage as a percent of the Request:** 6.24%**DSS + Personnel:** \$729,300**As a % of the total request:** 17.93%**Easement Stewardship:** \$168,000**As a % of the Easement Acquisition:** 23.01%**How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?**

TNC is reducing funds for fee acquisition and will not be able to complete several restoration and enhancement projects. MLT will be unable to complete several easements from landowners who have applied to previous requests for proposals.

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

TPL will leverage privately sourced funds to cover direct support services (DSS) costs not reimbursed and travel. MLT encourages landowners to donate value as a participant in the program. This leverage (\$150,000) is a conservative estimate of expected landowner contribution.

TNC is also leveraging \$73,000 Federal funds.

Personnel

Has funding for these positions been requested in the past?

Yes

Please explain the overlap of past and future staffing and position levels previously received and how that is coordinated over multiple years?

Phase 9 is a component of the larger Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration Program. Continuity of funding across multiple phases allows us flexibility when prioritizing parcels for protection or enhancement. Further, it ensures stability in our staffing model and provides the ability to plan and prioritize projects over multiple years. The flexibility provided by stable funding is critically important to achieving conservation goals given the uncertainty and variability of field season weather conditions. This proposal includes new seasonal stewardship positions to accelerate restoration and enhancement.

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

TNC and TPL contract line items are dedicated to enhancement and restoration work. Typical contractors include private vendors and Conservation Corps of MN/IA.

MLT will contract for: 1) habitat management plans on the new easement acquisitions: 2) restoration plans and projects, 3) landowner outreach through SWCDs .

Fee Acquisition

What is the anticipated number of fee title acquisition transactions?

TPL and TNC expect to close on 2-4 fee acquisitions through this appropriation.

Easement Stewardship

What is the number of easements anticipated, cost per easement for stewardship, and explain how that amount is calculated?

MLT expects to close 2-6 easements depending on size/cost and the amount of landowner donation of easement value received.

The average cost per easement to perpetually fund the Minnesota Land Trust's long-term monitoring and enforcement obligations is \$24,000. This figure has been determined by using a detailed stewardship funding calculator or "cost analysis" which is the industry standard according to the Land Trust Accreditation process. This cost analysis examines seventeen different categories of future annual expenditures related to the management of the easement and then calculates what the Land Trust needs in one-time funding to cover these various expenditures in perpetuity. In addition, the Land Trust seeks private contributions whenever possible to further leverage these state funds. The Minnesota Land Trust reviews and updates this cost-analysis periodically to ensure that the organization will have the capacity to fulfill its ongoing obligations. This cost-analysis is on file with the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council staff and the Land Trust shares a new version with the Council whenever updates are made.

Travel

Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?

Yes

Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging

Vehicle rental is also included.

I understand and agree that lodging, meals, and mileage must comply with the current MMB Commissioner Plan:

Yes

Direct Support Services**How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program?**

The Nature Conservancy's DSS is based on its Federally Negotiated Rate (FNR) as proposed and subsequently approved by the US Dept. of Interior on an annual basis. In this proposal we are requesting reimbursement of 7.5% of eligible base costs as determined by our annual FNR and based on suggestions from the Council in last year's hearings. Examples of expenses included in the FNR include in-house legal counsel; finance, human resources and administrative functions; and IT support. The FNR does not include land acquisition or capital equipment costs over \$50,000.

The Trust for Public Land's DSS request is based upon our federally approved rate, which has been approved by the DNR. This rate does not include costs that are included in other budget lines. 50% of these costs are requested from the grant and 50% is contributed as leverage.

MLT: In a process that was approved by the DNR on March 17, 2017, Minnesota Land Trust determined our direct support services rate to include all of the allowable direct and necessary expenditures that are not captured in other line items in the budget, which is similar to the Land Trust's proposed federal indirect rate. We will apply this DNR approved rate only to personnel expenses to determine the total amount of the direct support services.

Other Equipment/Tools**Give examples of the types of Equipment and Tools that will be purchased?**

Equipment and tools will be purchased to equip the crew carrying out restoration and enhancement, and include personal protection equipment, prescribed fire tools (e.g. drip torches and other hand tools), and other hand tools such as herbicide spray bottles.

Federal Funds**Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?**

Yes

Are the funds confirmed?

No

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds?

January 1, 2021

Output Tables**Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)**

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	-	-	30	23	53
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	152	217	-	369
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	729	729
Enhance	-	200	500	-	700
Total	-	352	747	752	1,851

How many of these Prairie acres are Native Prairie? (Table 1b)

Type	Native Prairie (acres)
Restore	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-
Protect in Easement	-
Enhance	200
Total	200

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	\$50,000	\$163,000	\$213,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	\$801,500	\$1,135,500	-	\$1,937,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	\$1,218,000	\$1,218,000
Enhance	-	\$200,000	\$500,000	-	\$700,000
Total	-	\$1,001,500	\$1,685,500	\$1,381,000	\$4,068,000

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	-	-	53	-	-	53
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	369	-	-	369
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	729	-	-	729
Enhance	-	-	700	-	-	700
Total	-	-	1,851	-	-	1,851

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	\$213,000	-	-	\$213,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	\$1,937,000	-	-	\$1,937,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	\$1,218,000	-	-	\$1,218,000
Enhance	-	-	\$700,000	-	-	\$700,000
Total	-	-	\$4,068,000	-	-	\$4,068,000

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
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Restore	-	-	\$1,666	\$7,086
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	\$5,273	\$5,232	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	\$1,670
Enhance	-	\$1,000	\$1,000	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	\$4,018	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	\$5,249	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	\$1,670	-	-
Enhance	-	-	\$1,000	-	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

1

Parcels

For restoration and enhancement programs ONLY: Managers may add, delete, and substitute projects on this parcel list based upon need, readiness, cost, opportunity, and/or urgency so long as the substitute parcel/project forwards the constitutional objectives of this program in the Project Scope table of this accomplishment plan. The final accomplishment plan report will include the final parcel list.

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?

[Yes - Sign up criteria is attached](#)

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:

- Within Conservation Opportunity Area or Area of Significant Native Biodiversity (allows for large landscape management and management efficiencies, i.e. large scale Rx fire)
- Contains a Minnesota Biological Survey mapped native plant community
- Equal to or greater than 80 acres in size
- Property line began within ¼ mile of a state-owned parcel
- A Conservation Partner is willing to accept the property/meets partner objectives (SNA, WMA, Forestry)
- Willing seller

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Vesta Bluff Prairies	Fillmore	10208214	20	\$50,000	Yes
Chosen Valley WMA	Fillmore	10412206	10	\$4,000	Yes
Gribben Creek State Forest Unit	Fillmore	10309228	30	\$36,000	Yes
Schueler Bluffs	Fillmore	10408203	25	\$25,000	Yes
Rushford SF South 2	Fillmore	10408226	30	\$15,000	Yes
William Pease WMA	Fillmore	10411207	25	\$10,000	Yes
Rushford Sand Barrens	Fillmore	10408221	50	\$25,000	Yes
Choice WMA	Fillmore	10208201	40	\$32,000	Yes
Schueler Center Bluff Enhancement	Fillmore	10408203	73	\$110,000	Yes
Chisholm Valley WMA	Houston	10307204	35	\$14,000	Yes
Mound Prairie Forests	Houston	10305203	30	\$12,000	Yes
Ferndale Ridge WMA	Houston	10407232	300	\$120,000	Yes
Whitewater hwy26 Bluff	Winona	10710203	35	\$42,000	Yes
Whitewater Lupine Valley	Winona	10810201	143	\$50,000	Yes
Wiscoy Valley 1	Winona	10507217	40	\$120,000	Yes
Wiscoy Valley 2	Winona	10507233	23	\$70,000	Yes
Whitewater WMA	Winona	10810202	60	\$180,000	Yes
Whitewater Savanna 2	Winona	10810235	100	\$30,000	Yes
Whitewater Savanna	Winona	10810211	65	\$162,500	Yes
Whitewater Prairie 2	Winona	10810211	27	\$67,500	Yes
Rushford Drainage District	Winona	10508233	31	\$93,000	Yes
Whitewater Kronebusch Fire ST	Winona	10810223	73	\$820	Yes
Whitewater Burnt Oaks	Winona	10810211	65	\$162,500	Yes
Whitewater Larsen Prairie	Winona	10710208	30	\$50,200	Yes

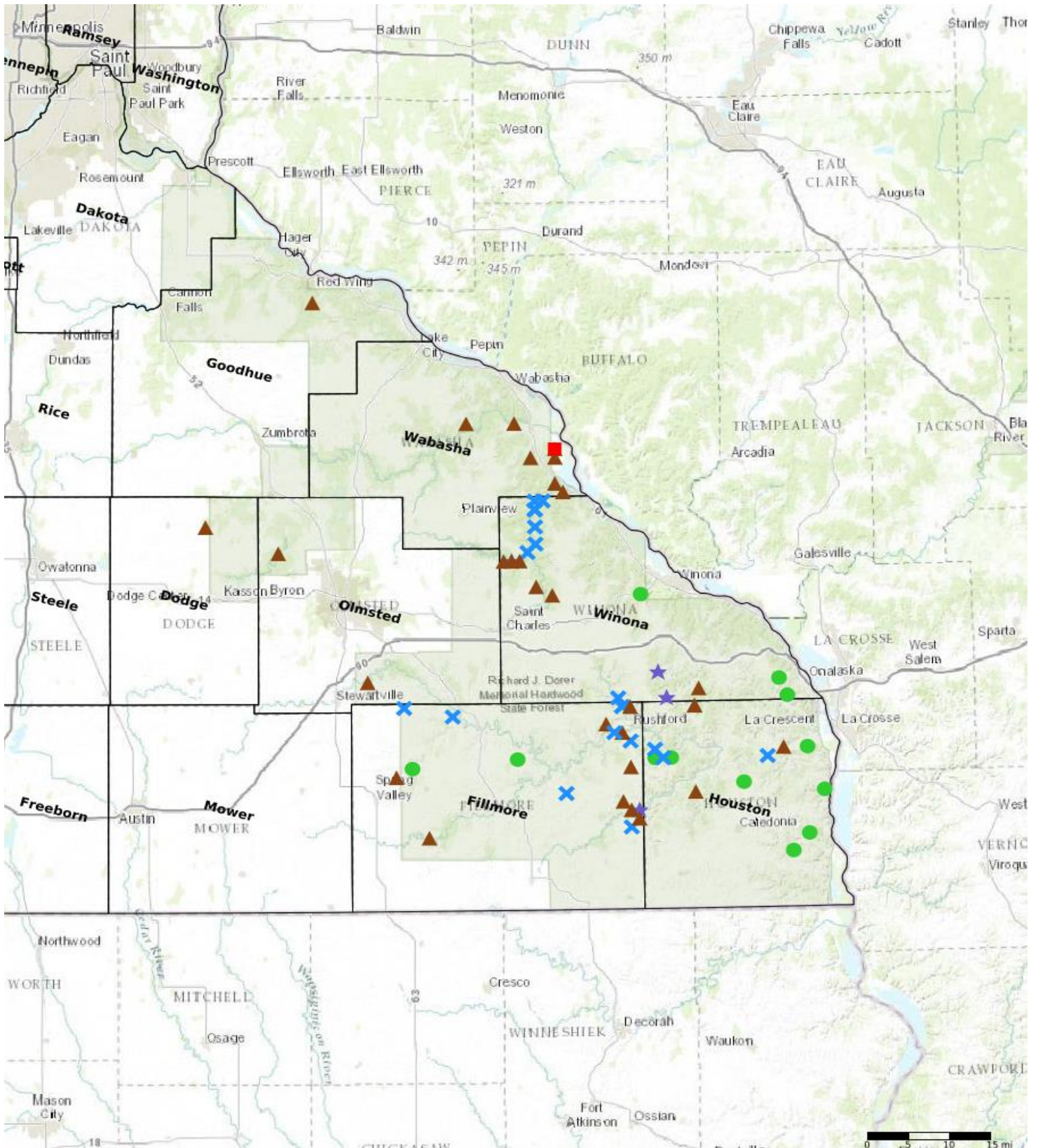
Protect Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Middle Fork Zumbro River SNA	Dodge	10817224	175	\$787,500	No
Deer Creek SNA II	Fillmore	10313213	159	\$506,000	No
Forestville 2	Fillmore	10212222	130	\$455,000	No
Rushford SB 2	Fillmore	10408222	160	\$500,000	No
Choice WMA North 4	Fillmore	10308234	75	\$270,000	No
Rushford Village Dorer State Forest Addition	Fillmore	10408217	264	\$1,400,000	No
Deer Creek - MLT	Fillmore	10312208	41	\$41,000	No
Mahoney Creek - MLT	Fillmore	10310204	21	\$0	No
Choice	Fillmore	10308211	102	\$102,000	No
Choice WMA 6	Fillmore	10208212	120	\$420,000	No
Hay Creek Unit Addition	Goodhue	11214207	144	\$1,071,000	No
Brownsville Bluff - MLT	Houston	10304226	14	\$0	No
Daley Creek - MLT	Houston	10307205	160	\$238,000	No
Root River 2 - MLT	Houston	10307203	200	\$100,000	No
Crooked Creek 2 - MLT	Houston	10204231	441	\$441,000	No
Crooked Creek - MLT	Houston	10204221	87	\$87,000	No
Root River - MLT	Houston	10404233	142	\$175,370	No
Crystal Creek - MLT	Houston	10305219	68	\$74,500	Yes
Root River WMA	Houston	10405236	37	\$135,000	No
Wet Bark 3	Houston	10306230	325	\$1,137,500	No
Money Creek South	Houston	10406206	100	\$300,000	No
Money Creek South	Houston	10406206	100	\$100,000	No
South Br Middle Fork Zumbro	Olmsted	10715204	63	\$2,000,000	No
Root River Forestry	Olmsted	10513220	40	\$900,000	No
Whitewater WMA Main II	Wabasha	10909232	210	\$486,000	No
Watopa Forest	Wabasha	10910210	320	\$1,320,000	No
Mighty Zumbro	Wabasha	11010220	155	\$750,000	No
Weaver Dunes	Wabasha	10909206	231	\$250,000	No
Mighty Zumbro II	Wabasha	11011220	200	\$1,000,000	No
Whitewater WMA Main	Wabasha	10909230	50	\$252,000	No
McCarthy Lake 2	Wabasha	10909207	100	\$450,000	No
McCarthy Lake	Wabasha	10909206	138	\$135,000	No
Rose Valley - MLT	Winona	10505223	400	\$500,000	No
Whitewater WMA South II	Winona	10710226	543	\$1,884,000	No
Whitewater WMA North II	Winona	10710208	86	\$624,900	No
Whitewater WMA South	Winona	10709231	430	\$2,300,000	No
Whitewater WMA North I	Winona	10710207	41	\$259,000	No
Whitewater WMA Main III	Winona	10710209	54	\$277,900	No
Lane Valley Creek - MLT	Winona	10505236	300	\$0	No
Stockton Valley - MLT	Winona	10708236	46	\$0	No

Protect Parcels with Buildings

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Buildings	Value of Buildings
Choice WMA 7	Fillmore	10208202	570	\$2,000,000	No	2	-
Rush Creek	Fillmore	10408202	240	\$825,000	Yes	1	\$0
Money Creek	Winona	10506230	850	\$2,500,000	No	1	\$0

Parcel Map



- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✕ Enhance
- ⊕ Other